

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 253

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Benjamin Bruce Bates,  
2007 Salutatorian of Gatlinburg-Pittman High  
School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Bruce Bates is one such exceptional student who was recently named Salutatorian of the 2007 graduating class at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Benjamin Bates has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Mr. Bates has earned an exemplary 3.785 grade point average while participating in numerous extracurricular activities, including teaching a Morse Code class and following his love as a ham radio and electrical hobbyist; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bates has earned many honors, including standing as a National Merit Finalist; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bates's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success at the Georgia Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Bates's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Donna Putroni and Roger Bates, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Bates's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the 2007 Gatlinburg-Pittman High School

Salutatorian, Benjamin Bruce Bates, on his impressive academic achievement and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.